Underlying vision for the Eleventh Five Year Plan as highlighted in the Approach Paper is inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities. A provision of Rs. 1396 crore has been made for persons with disabilities during Eleventh Five Plan, disability concerns are dealt with by a number of Ministries. However, under the budget head of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, specific allocations are made for the persons with disabilities.

Setting up of sovereign wealth fund

2734. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had recommended Government to set up a sovereign wealth fund to make use of the swelling foreign exchange reserves;

(b) if so, whether Government has accepted the recommendation;

(c) if so, by when the same would come into operation and explain the salient features of the proposed fund;

(d) whether the proceeds deposited in the fund would be reinvested in various sectors of the economy; and

(e) if so, the sector which are expected to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Mid-term review of Tenth Plan

2735. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the mid-term review of the Tenth Five Year Plan 2002-07 only 14 out of 37 Central Government Ministries were allocating funds under the Special Component Plan in proportion to the Scheduled Castes Population;

(b) if so, whether it did not come to the notice of the co-ordination Wing of the Cabinet Secretariat which is functioning specifically to ensure that Government orders and instructions are followed by all the Ministries in letter and spirit; and

(c) the position at the completion of the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (c) As per the Mid-Term Appraised of Tenth Five Year Plan published in June, 2005 there were 14 Central Ministries/Departments have been earmarking funds under SCP. However, as on 31 March, 2008, 20 Central Ministries/Departments have allocated funds under the Special Component Plan.

Recommendation of National Knowledge Commission

2736. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Knowledge Commission has recommended for closing of All India Council for Technical Education;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for this recommendation; and